constituted for clearance of outstanding statutory dues of workers could not be made on account of dissolution of the previous Cabinet.

(b) and (c) Based on the discussions in the meeting of the Group of Ministers on 29th August, 1997, the Government has been making concerted efforts to liquidate outstanding statutory dues of workers. In the Union Budget for 1998-99 the Government has made an allocation of Rs. 1482 crores as non-Plan loans mainly for payment of wages and salaries to the employees of sick and convalescent PSUs.

New National Labour Policy

4354. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the new National Labour Policy;

(b) the measures taken to mitigate the grievances of workers in the unorganised sector; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a second National Labour Commission for solving such workers' problem and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Review and updation of Labour Policy is a continuous process so as to ensure its relevance to the emerging needs. However, in the context of preparation for the 9th Five Year Plan, a Working Group on Labour Policy was set up in December, 1995. The report was submitted to the Planning Commission in October, 1996 The thrust of the Labour Policy would be on consolidation and strengthening of the base created through tripartitism for maintaining industrial peace and harmony. The policy parameters include development of a labour policy in tune with the economic policy with a thrust on appropriate employment and wage policy.

(b) Most of the Labour Laws apply to workers in the organised as well as unorganised sectors. Minimum Wages Act is an important piece of social legislation meant to safeguard the interest of workers in the unorganised Sector.

Additionally, for certain categories of unorganised workers, the Government have established Welfare Funds to address concerns in areas like health, housing, social security, educational and recreational facilities etc.

To improve the working conditions of construction workers and to provide minimum social security for them, the following two laws concerning construction workers have recently been enacted:

(i) The Building and other Construction of Workers (Regulation of Employment and conditions of Service) Act, 1996.

(ii) The Building and other Construction Workers (welfare cases) Act, 1996.

(c) Labour Laws have been enacted over a period of time to address a number of issues which assumed importance and attracted pointed attention at a particular point of time. While many of these issues are of continued nature, some of these might have ceased to be of importance hence the need for review of labour policies, programmes and laws flowing from them. This question has also been discussed in the Tripartite meeting of the Standing Labour Committee and Indian Labour Conference and the Government has agreed, in principle, to have these laws reviewed by setting up a high powered body so as to ensure consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic policy as also to provide for greater welfare of the working class.

Increasing unemployment in the country

4355. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of unemployment has increased in the country for the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details of State-wise increase in the Employment Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) As per the Labour Force Surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation the unemployment which was of the order of 12 million during 1987-88 has come down to 9 million in 1993-94 as per Usual Principal Status. However, the number of job-seekers,

all of whom are not necessary unemployed, on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges has shown a marginal increase during the last three years.

(b) The State-wise increase in number of employment exchanges between December 1994 and December 1997 which are the latest available are given in the statement (*see below*)

Statement

State-wise increase in Number of Employment Exchanges/University Employment Information & Guidance Bureaux during Dec., 1994 and Dec., 1997

State/Union Territory	Increase (in Numbers)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	-4
Arunachal Pradesh	7
Assam	0
Bihar	0
Goa	0
Gujarat	-3
Haryana	4
Himachal Pradesh	0
Jammu & Kashmir	0
Karnataka	3
Kerala	20
Madhya Pradesh	1
Maharashtra	0
Manipur	0
Meghalaya	0
Mizoram	0
Nagaland	0
Orissa	2
Punjab	0
Rajasthan	7
Sikkim	*
Tamilnadu	1
Tripura	0
Uttar Pradesh	4
West Bengal	0
A & N Islands	0
Chandigarh	0
Dadra & N. Haveli	0
Daman & Diu	1
Delhi	0
Lakshadweep	0
Pondicherry	0
ALL INDIA	43

Note : (*) No exchange is functioning in the state.

देश में बाल श्रमिक

4356. **श्री अखिलेश दास:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) ऐसे उद्योग कौन-कौन से हैं जिनमें विशेष रूप से बाल श्रमिक कार्यरत है;

(ख) क्या उन्हें अनेक वेतनमान एवं विहित अधिकार प्राप्त है, और

(ग) सरकार ने बाल श्रम को कम करने या इसे समाप्त करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए हैं?

श्रम मंत्री (डॉ सत्यनारायण जटिया): (क) 1991 की जनगणना मुख्य औद्योगिक श्रेणियों में बच्चों के नियोजन के बारे में सूचना प्रदान करती है। जनगणना रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, 80 प्रतिशत से अधिक कामकाजी बच्चे कृषि और संबंधित रोजगारों जैसे जोतना, कृषि श्रमिक, पशुधन, विनिकी, मत्स्य पालन और खनन आदि में कार्यरत है।

(ख) बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध एवं विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1986 के अंतर्गत 7 व्यवसायों और 18 प्रक्रियाओं में बच्चों का नियोजन प्रतिषिद्ध है। अन्य व्यवसायों और प्रक्रियाओं में बच्चों के नियोजन की दशाओं को अधिनियम के अंतर्गत विनियमित किया जाता है। अधिनियम में वेतनमानों और निर्धारित अधिकारों का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है।

(ग) बाल श्रम की समस्या से निपटने के लिए सरकार ने अनेक उपाय किये हैं। बाल श्रम से संबंधित श्रम कानूनों के प्रवर्तन के अलावा जोखिमकारी व्यवसायों में कार्यरत बाल श्रमिकों को कार्य से हटाने और पुनर्वासित करने के लिए सरकार ने उपाए किये हैं। जोखिमकारी व्यवसायों में कार्यरत बच्चों के पुनर्वास के लिए अगस्त, 1994 में एक प्रमुख कार्यक्रम की घोषणा की गई थी। जोखिमकारी व्यवसायों में कार्यरत लगभग 1.5 लाख बच्चों के पुनर्वास के लिए अब तक 76 बाल श्रम परियोजनाएं स्थापित की गई हैं। इस मुद्दे पर माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा भी विचार किया गया था। न्यायालय ने अपने 10.12.96 के निर्णय में जोखिमकारी व्यवसायों में बच्चों को नियोजित करने वाले नियोजकों द्वारा मुआवजे का भुगतान करने सहित अनेक निर्देश दिये हैं। इन निर्देशों को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए सरकार ने अब तक अनेक कदम उठायें हैं।

लम्बित श्रम विवाद मामले

4357. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में इस समय श्रम विवाद संबंधी कुल